

replacing your ministers; you cannot stand the pressure. You want an election so that you can get a new mandate from the people to go on with your maladministration—either that, or you want somebody else to take the reins of power, because of the deplorable condition in which our country is at the present time. You are willing to spend money for anything under the sun except for that which is necessary—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I must ask the hon. member to address the Chair.

Mr. BALDWIN: Mr. Speaker, I apologize. I have said that we are building up a grand military machine in this country. While our peace emissaries were abroad working in co-operation with that conclave of men who were engaged in formulating the conditions of a world peace, we were building up a grand military machine, looking to a glorious war some day. But has there ever been a glorious war in the history of the world? No. War is destruction; war is murder; war is hell. Wars have destroyed the substance of this world; wars have destroyed the people of this world. During the great war, between eight and nine millions of people were killed. Thousands of people have died of broken hearts. Many fathers and mothers are now weeping for their dead; widows and children are sorrowful and in despair; tens of thousands of girls in this world will never be loved. And can we say that war is a justifiable thing? Why should we build up a military machine in this country, bounded, as we are, on three sides by broad oceans and on the south by that great and peaceable power, United States, the better element of the population of which is located along our borders? Should we build up a machine which has for its purpose the destruction of humanity? No, we should not, nor is it necessary that we should do so. We should reduce the standing army to the lowest possible number consistent with the safety of our country. The men who went overseas fought and died in order that peace might prevail and war be done away with. Let us carry out the ideals for which these men strove; let us not waste the money of this country by building up an expensive military machine.

I have said some things about the financial condition of the country. I have pointed out the deplorable state that we are in, and I have asserted that this Government cannot face its obligations; that its members are resigning, and that the Administration intends to spring an elec-

tion on the country. I believe that is what this session was called for, but we on this side of the House are too shrewd to put our foot into your trap. At any rate, that is my opinion.

The Prince of Wales has been touring this country. His words have been magnificent; he is winning the hearts of the people. As he goes from place to place he grows in the estimation of the people of Canada because he evidences a democratic spirit. He shows that he feels for humanity and that he longs for the peace of the world; his is the heart of Abraham Lincoln and of the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Never in all the history of Canada has a Government had such an opportunity of doing something for the people as it has to-day—the opportunity of carrying out the ideals to which our future King has so nobly given expression.

Persecution has gone on long enough in this country. When the League of Nations becomes operative I believe that there will be no more war; the great powers and nations of the earth will be united to prevent it. Then there will be no need for conscription; there will be no need for compelling people to engage in war; there will be no need for the employment of harsh measures. In order to liken the presence of the Prince of Wales in this country to the passing over our land of the Prince of Peace, we should declare an amnesty in respect of those young men who have been imprisoned for no further fault than that of being ignorant of the law and not doing the things that the State required of them. Where no act of violence has been committed, where the peace has not been disturbed, where there has been no treason or sedition, there should be an opening of the prison bars and a releasing of those who have been detained for committing no further crime than that of neglecting to come forward and go to war.

In the province from which I come the people believe in peace, harmony and happiness. The province of Quebec has saved the Dominion of Canada two or three times; she is saving it and has been saving it for the past six months. Her people have been doing what honourable, industrious and upright people should do; they have been sticking to industry; they have been working. We can prove that, because the capitalists of Canada and United States have their eyes on the province of Quebec as a safe place to invest their money; in that province there are no uprisings and no strikes. I repeat that it would be a splendid